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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : The American Embassy, BONN

703

DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

November 3, 1958

DATE

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SUBJECT: Utilization of Soviet Zone Refugees in Anti-Communist Information Programs

According to official West German figures, 15615 East German intellectuals, including the so-called technical intelligentsia, fled to the Federal Republic during the first nine months of this year. Of this number, over 3000 came to West Germany between June 1 and September 30.

Period	Total	Including:	Judges & States Attorneys	Lawyers & notaries	Univ. Instructors	Other Instructors	Technical Intelligentsia
		Doctors	Den-tists	Veteri-narians	Pharma-cists		
1958							
Sept.	722	104	28	7	16	--	5
Aug.	1042	140	32	5	12	2	3
July	771	115	31	7	19	3	4
June	476	74	8	3	15	--	7
May	523	64	12	2	13	1	2
April	594	71	27	5	8	1	4
March	431	47	11	3	4	1	3
Feb.	390	54	14	2	7	1	9
Jan.	666	60	24	2	37	--	8
	5615	729	187	36	131	9	45
							132
							2551
							1795

The category in which an individual is registered for purposes of these figures, apparently, depends entirely on his own unverified statements about his previous professional experience. Actually, according to officials in the Refugee and All-German Affairs Ministries, a number of these refugees do not meet the Federal Republic professional standards and therefore are not now doing the kind of work they allegedly did in the Soviet Zone. Some lack the necessary educational background; others the required practical training; a number lack both. The incidence of this seems to be greatest among the educators and physicians.

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1 Der Bundesminister fuer Vertriebene, Fluechtlinge und Kriegsgeschaedigte I
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But in their conversations with us, German officials persistently maintain that there have been very few East Zone intellectuals who have been unable to find "suitable employment". Professional societies, in cooperation with governmental and quasi-governmental agencies have taken care of most of the refugee intellectuals. The Rektorenkonferenz has been looking after professors and other university educators; medical groups have been working with the qualified physicians; the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the scientists; the Ministers of Culture of the West German Laender have been pooling their resources to help the artists. And the Refugee Ministry has been working with all of these groups and, through its bank, has even been making necessary funds available.

The greatest problem thus far has been placing the "unqualified". Some have been put on practical problems to demonstrate what know-how they might have. (Dr. Middelmann of the Refugee Ministry claims the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft is employing a large number of refugees with alleged scientific backgrounds on its scientific projects). Others are being given the opportunity to bring their formal educational training up to the Federal Republic's standards. However, there apparently are some who will not be able to work in their claimed professions and they are being persuaded to move into other fields. In other words, in one form or another, there officially is "full employment" for the East Zone intellectuals who came to the Federal Republic during the last few months.

However, despite this official claim of full employment, the Embassy feels it still might be useful to indicate to appropriate German officials, on a completely informal basis, our interest in some of these individuals and sound them out on the possibilities for utilizing their talents for the anti-Communist information program. If we can spell out the details of the program and indicate that we have specific plans for employing some of these people, we might find that not every one is actually being profitably employed as claimed. But, for all practical purposes, it probably should be recognized at the outset that the numbers of refugee intellectuals who might be available for such a project would be fairly small and for the most part would be individuals who failed to find permanent employment because they did not meet West German professional standards.

For the Ambassador:

William R. Tyler
William R. Tyler
Counselor of Embassy

EB,
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